

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A mobile communication device, comprising:

a main body; and

a camera module, coupled to said main body and configured for movement with respect thereto between a retracted position and an exposed position and rotatable in said exposed position about at least one axis of rotation.

2. The mobile communication device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said camera module translates to move between said retracted position and said exposed position.

3. The mobile communication device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said at least one axis of rotation is essentially perpendicular to a direction of said movement.

4. The mobile communication device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said camera module is rotatable at least from a front side position to a back side position in said exposed position.

5. The mobile communication device as recited in Claim 1 wherein said camera module is rotatable about at least two axes of rotation in said exposed position.

6. The mobile communication device as recited in Claim 5  
2 wherein said two axes of rotation are essentially perpendicular.

7. The mobile communication device as recited in Claim 1  
2 further comprising a user-releasable retainer for retaining said  
3 camera module in said retracted position.

8. The mobile communication device as recited in Claim 1  
2 further comprising a spring mechanism that automatically ejects  
3 said camera module from said retracted position to said exposed  
4 position.

9. The mobile communication device as recited in Claim 1,  
2 comprising detection means for detecting a position of said camera  
3 module relative to said main body.

10. The mobile communication device as recited in Claim 9,  
2 comprising a memory with at least one stored program and a  
3 microprocessor by which said program can be executed, said program  
4 being started automatically when said detection means detects a  
5 certain position of said camera module.

11. The mobile communication device as recited in Claim 1  
2 further comprising a flash coupled to said camera module.

12. The mobile communication device as recited in Claim 1  
2 further comprising a user-activatable self-timer that automatically  
3 takes a photograph after a certain delay time and an indicator that  
4 indicates an elapsing of said delay time.

13. The mobile communication device as recited in Claim 12  
2 wherein said indicator is a light-emitting diode (LED).

14. A mobile communication device, comprising:

2 a main body having attaching means for attaching a camera  
3 module; and

4 a camera module having complementary attaching means to said  
5 main body, such that said camera module is movable with respect to  
6 said main body from a retracted position to an exposed position and  
7 is rotatable in said exposed position about at least one axis of  
8 rotation.

15. The mobile communication device as recited in Claim 14  
2 wherein said attaching means of said main body comprises means for  
3 moving the camera module from the retracted position to said  
4 exposed position and means for rotating said camera module in said  
5 exposed position about at least one axis of rotation.

16. A camera module, comprising:

2        attaching means for attaching said camera module to  
3        complementary attaching means of a mobile communication device; and  
4        a camera, coupled to said attaching means, said camera movable  
5        with respect to a main body of said mobile communication device  
6        from a retracted position to an exposed position and rotatable in  
7        said exposed position about at least one axis of rotation.

17. A method of operating a retractable rotatable camera  
2 module, comprising:  
3       deploying said camera module by releasing a user-releasable  
4 retainer, said camera module to move from a retracted position to  
5 an exposed position with respect to a main body of an associated  
6 mobile communication device; and  
7       rotating said camera module about at least one axis of  
8 rotation.

18. The method as recited in Claim 17 further comprising  
2 detecting a position of said camera module relative to said main  
3 body.

19. The method as recited in Claim 18 wherein said detecting  
2 comprises detecting a rotational orientation of said camera module.

20. The method as recited in Claim 18 further comprising  
2 automatically configuring a display of said mobile communication  
3 device for a particular application.